

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (*Director of Food Supplies*): I can't say. I said we have to calculate.

മിസ്റ്റർ സി. കെ. നായർ: സാധനങ്ങൾ സൗകര്യമായി വിതരണം ചെയ്യുവാൻ സാധിക്കാത്ത അല്ലെങ്കിൽ വേണ്ടുന്നവെച്ചാൽ ഈ പതിനായിരം ഉറപ്പിക ചിലവുകൾമൊ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (*Director of Food Supplies*): Government think it is necessary.

മിസ്റ്റർ സി. കെ. നായർ: രേഷനിങ്ങ് തുടങ്ങുന്നതിന്നു മുമ്പല്ലെ ഗവണ്മെണ്ടു അല്ലകൾ തുടങ്ങിയതു്?

Mr. President: Order, order. The Hon'ble Member seems to me—I am not certain—that he is pressing an argument, not asking for information.

Mr. C. K. Nayar (*Nemmara*): My intention is I want to bring home to the Government that.....

Mr. President: Order, order. The questions and answers are not the time to bring things home to the Government. They are the time for hon'ble members to obtain information.

Mr. C. K. Nayar (*Nemmara*): By means of questions I want to bring home to the Government the unnecessary.....

Mr. President: Order, order. Questions and answers are intended to elicit information. മിസ്റ്റർ വി. കെ. കട്ടി: ലൈസൻസിജാത്ത പീടികകൾ എടുത്തു് കളയുവാൻ സാധിക്കുമൊ?

റാവു സാഹിബ് എം. എം. പോൾ: ഇല്ല.

മിസ്റ്റർ. സി. കെ. നായർ: ഇതു താമസിക്കാതെ നിർത്തണമെന്ന ഉദ്ദേശത്തോടുകൂടിയാണ് ആദ്യം തുടങ്ങിയതു് എന്നു ഗവണ്മെണ്ടു് പറഞ്ഞതായി ഓർക്കുന്നുണ്ടോ?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (*Director of Food Supplies*): I do not remember. I want notice.

LICENSED MERCHANTS—CHERUTHURUTHI VILLAGE

173. Mr. K. Kunhirama Menon (*Cheruthuruthi*): Will Government be pleased to state.—

(a) the number and names of Government licensed private merchants in the Cheruthuruthi village for the Civil supplies;

(b) has Government enquired if any of the said merchants has been convicted under the Defence of India Act for hoarding kerosene oil;

(c) if so, who is the merchant convicted;

(d) whether there were any other applicants from the said village requesting Government to give them licence?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (*Director of Food Supplies*):

(a) There are at present two Government licensed private merchants in the Cheruthuruthi village. They are Messrs. (1) K. T. Raman Nayar and (2) P. I. Chakkunni.

(b) Yes.

(c) Mr. P. I. Chakkunni.

(d) There were two other applicants from the locality. They were Messrs. (1) K. B. Poker and (2) K. Venketeswara Ayyar. One Mr. Krishnankutty Nayar also applied for licence later on and even though he was selected as a retailer, he got himself relieved of the duties as he could not continue his business.

Mr. K. Kunhirama Menon (*Cheruthuruthi*): May I know why this convicted man was selected in preference to the other applicants?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (*Director of Food Supplies*): Enquiries were made then. It was thought that he was a respectable dealer and we were not then aware of the nature of the conviction.

Mr. K. Kunhirama Menon (*Cheruthuruthi*): Has the Government become aware of the nature of the conviction just now?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (*Director of Food Supplies*): Yes. Orders will be issued to remove him as soon as possible.

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS—REASONABLE PRICE FOR PRODUCERS

174. Mr. A. V. Moothedan (*Chalakkudi*): Will Government be pleased to state.—

(a) whether they have not made during the Budget Session of 1117 a declaration guaranteeing that the agriculturists in the State would get a reasonable price for their products;

(b) if so, will Government be pleased to state whether the agriculturists are now getting reasonable price for (i) paddy and (ii) tapioca;

(c) will Government be pleased to state whether they are considering the desirability of leaving such questions as fixing the price of agricultural products to impartial tribunals consisting of producers and consumers of paddy and tapioca.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (*Director of Food Supplies*):

(a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Prices are generally fixed in consultation with the Food Advisory Council which consists of non-official members representing almost all sections of the people. Government do not think that anything further need be done in this matter.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan (*Chalakkudi*): May I know what is the total number of members in the Food Advisory Council?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (*Director of Food Supplies*): 17.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan (*Chalakkudi*): May I know how many represent producers and how many consumers?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (*Director of Food Supplies*): I want notice. I can't say.

Mr. K. Narayana Menon (*Mulakunnathukavu*): Are not all the members of this Committee also consumers?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (*Director of Food Supplies*): Yes.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan (*Chalakkudi*): I am using the term in a technical sense, i.e., those who produce paddy and tapioca and other things.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (*Director of Food Supplies*): I want notice. I do not know who, all are producing paddy and who all tapioca.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan (*Chalakkudi*): Am I right in taking that most of them are consumers alone and not producers?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (*Director of Food Supplies*): I can't say.

QUOTA OF SUGAR—PARTICULARS REGARDING

175. Mr. A. V. Moothedan (*Chalakkudi*): Will Government be pleased to state.—

(a) whether our State is allowed sufficient quantity of sugar;

(b) what was the quantity of sugar allowed to our State during the year 1943;

(c) is the Supplies Department allowing applications for sugar made by daily card-holders;

(d) if the answer to (c) is in the negative, will Government be pleased to state whether such applications are rejected because there is not sufficient stock of sugar in the State?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (*Director of Food Supplies*):

(a) No.

(b) 2,900 tons.

(c) Yes. In deserving cases.

(d) Does not arise in view of answer to question (c).

Mr. A. V. Moothedan (*Chalakkudi*): Have the Government made any representations to the Central Government for allowing us increased quota of sugar?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (*Director of Food Supplies*): Oh, Yes. We have made repeated representations to the Government of India to allow us an increased quota.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan (*Chalakkudi*): Is there no response from the Central Government yet whether we may get in 1944 an increased quota?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (*Director of Food Supplies*): Originally it was less. They have increased it to 2,900. We again pointed out it is inadequate, and we hope our representations will have some effect.

Mr. T. S. Ramachandra Ayyar (*Chittur-Tattamangalam*): May I know, Sir, the ration of sugar is allowed to adults and children in our State?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul (*Director of Food Supplies*): That question was answered yesterday.

Mr. President: That question has been answered already. The hon'ble member's memory seems to be rather short.

Mr. T. S. Ramachandra Ayyar (*Chittur-Tattamangalam*): I was not present here perhaps.

Khan Sahib Ismail Hajee Issa Sait (*Mattancheri*): Is there any committee appointed